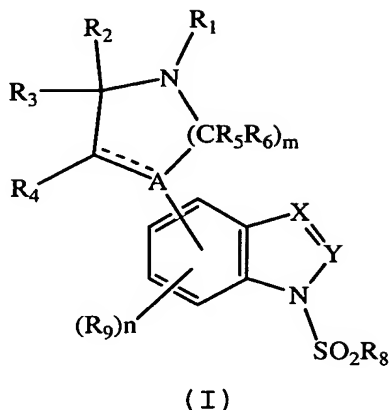


WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A compound of formula I



wherein

- A is C, CR₁₀ or N;
- 10 X is CR₁₁ or N;
- Y is CR₇ or N with the proviso that when X is N, then Y must be CR₇;
- R₁ is H, C₁-C₆alkylcarbonyl, C₁-C₆alkylcarbonyloxy or an C₁-C₆alkyl, C₁-C₆alkenyl, C₁-C₆alkynyl or
- 15 cycloheteroalkyl group each optionally substituted;
- R₂, R₃, R₄, R₅ and R₆ are each independently H, halogen, OH or an optionally substituted C₁-C₆alkyl group;
- 20 R₇ and R₁₁ are each independently H, halogen or an C₁-C₆alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl or C₁-C₆alkoxy group each optionally substituted;
- R₈ is an C₁-C₆alkyl, aryl or heteroaryl group each optionally substituted;
- 25 R₉ is H, halogen or an C₁-C₆alkyl, C₁-C₆alkoxy, C₁-C₆alkenyl, aryl or heteroaryl group each optionally substituted;

R_{10} is H, OH or an optionally substituted C_1-C_6 alkoxy group;

m is an integer of 1, 2 or 3;

n is 0 or an integer of 1, 2 or 3; and

5 ---- represents a single bond or a double bond; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. The compound according to claim 1 wherein A is N and m is 2.

10

3. The compound according to claim 1 wherein X is CR_{11} and Y is N.

4. The compound according to claim 1 wherein X is CR_{11} and Y is CR_7 .

15

5. The compound according to claim 1 wherein R_8 is an optionally substituted phenyl group.

6. The compound according to claim 1 wherein R_2 , R_3 , R_4 , R_5 and R_6 are H.

20

7. The compound according to claim 2 wherein R_1 is H or a C_1-C_6 alkyl or cycloheteroalkyl group each optionally substituted.

25

8. The compound according to claim 1 selected from the group consisting of:

1-(phenylsulfonyl)-4-piperazin-1-yl-1H-indole;

30 1-[(2-bromophenyl)sulfonyl]-4-piperazin-1-yl-1H-indole;

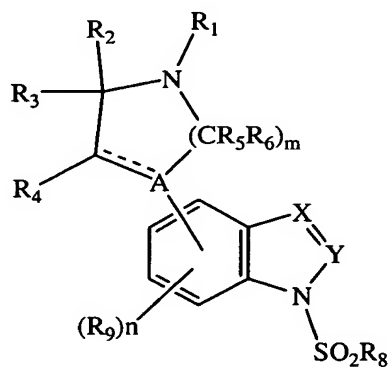
1-[(6-chloroimidazo[2,1-b][1,3]thiazol-5-yl)sulfonyl]-4-piperazin-1-yl-1H-indole;

1-[(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)sulfonyl]-4-piperazin-1-yl-1H-indole;

1-[(5-chloro-3-methyl-1-benzothien-2-yl)sulfonyl]-4-
 piperazin-1-yl-1H-indole;
 1-[(4-bromophenyl)sulfonyl]-4-piperazin-1-yl-1H-indole;
 1-[(5-bromothien-2-yl)sulfonyl]-4-piperazin-1-yl-1H-
 5 indole;
 1-[(4,5-dichlorothien-2-yl)sulfonyl]-4-piperazin-1-yl-1H-
 indole;
 methyl 4-[(4-piperazin-1-yl-1H-indol-1-yl)sulfonyl]phenyl
 ether;
 10 4-piperazin-1-yl-1-[(4-
 (trifluoromethoxy)phenyl)sulfonyl]-1H-indole;
 4-(4-benzylpiperazin-1-yl)-1-(phenylsulfonyl)-1H-indole;
 4-(4-benzylpiperazin-1-yl)-1-[(2-bromophenyl)sulfonyl]-
 1H-indole;
 15 4-(4-benzylpiperazin-1-yl)-1-[(6-chloroimidazo[2,1-
 b][1,3]thiazol-5-yl)sulfonyl]-1H-indole;
 4-(4-benzylpiperazin-1-yl)-1-[(3,4-
 dimethoxyphenyl)sulfonyl]-1H-indole;
 4-[4-(3-methoxybenzyl)piperazin-1-yl]-1-(phenylsulfonyl)-
 20 1H-indole;
 1-(phenylsulfonyl)-4-[4-(pyridin-4-ylmethyl)piperazin-1-
 yl]-1H-indole;
 1-(phenylsulfonyl)-4-[4-(pyridin-3-ylmethyl)piperazin-1-
 yl]-1H-indole;
 25 1-[(2-bromophenyl)sulfonyl]-4-[4-(3-
 methoxybenzyl)piperazin-1-yl]-1H-indole;
 1-[(2-bromophenyl)sulfonyl]-4-[4-(pyridin-4-
 ylmethyl)piperazin-1-yl]-1H-indole;
 1-[(2-bromophenyl)sulfonyl]-4-[4-(pyridin-3-
 30 ylmethyl)piperazin-1-yl]-1H-indole;
 1-(phenylsulfonyl)-5-piperazin-1-yl-1H-indazole;
 1-(phenylsulfonyl)-6-piperazin-1-yl-1H-indazole;
 1-[(2-bromophenyl)sulfonyl]-6-piperazin-1-yl-1H-indazole;
 1-[(4-bromophenyl)sulfonyl]-5-piperazin-1-yl-1H-indazole;
 35 1-[(4-bromophenyl)sulfonyl]-6-piperazin-1-yl-1H-indazole;

- 1-[(5-bromothien-2-yl)sulfonyl]-5-piperazin-1-yl-1H-indazole;
 1-[(5-bromothien-2-yl)sulfonyl]-6-piperazin-1-yl-1H-indazole;
 5 1-[(4-fluorophenyl)sulfonyl]-5-piperazin-1-yl-1H-indazole;
 1-[(4-fluorophenyl)sulfonyl]-6-piperazin-1-yl-1H-indazole;
 methyl 4-[(5-piperazin-1-yl-1H-indazol-1-yl)sulfonyl]phenyl ether;
 10 1-phenylsulfonyl-4-(4-propylpiperazin-1-yl)-1H-indazole;
 1-phenylsulfonyl-4-piperazin-1-yl-1H-indazole;
 1-phenylsulfonyl-4-(4-phenethylpiperazin-1-yl)-1H-indazole;
 15 1-phenylsulfonyl-4-[4-(3-phenylpropyl)-piperazin-1-yl]-1H-indazole; and
 the pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

9. A method for the treatment of a disorder of the central nervous system related to or affected by the 5-HT₆ receptor in a patient in need thereof which comprises administering to said patient a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula I.



(I)

wherein

A is C, CR₁₀ or N;

X is CR₁₁ or N;

Y is CR₇ or N with the proviso that when X is N, then Y must be CR₇;

R₁ is H, C₁-C₆alkylcarbonyl, C₁-C₆alkylcarbonyloxy or an C₁-C₆alkyl, C₁-C₆alkenyl, C₁-C₆alkynyl or cycloheteroalkyl group each optionally substituted;

R₂, R₃, R₄, R₅ and R₆ are each independently H, halogen, OH or an optionally substituted C₁-C₆alkyl group;

R₇ and R₁₁ are each independently H, halogen or an C₁-C₆alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl or C₁-C₆alkoxy group each optionally substituted;

R₈ is an C₁-C₆alkyl, aryl or heteroaryl group each optionally substituted;

R₉ is H, halogen or an C₁-C₆alkyl, C₁-C₆alkoxy, C₁-C₆alkenyl, aryl or heteroaryl group each optionally substituted;

R₁₀ is H, OH or an optionally substituted C₁-C₆alkoxy group;

m is an integer of 1, 2 or 3;

n is 0 or an integer of 1, 2 or 3; and

--- represents a single bond or a double bond; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

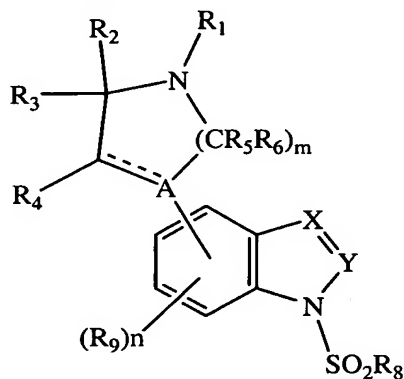
10. The method according to claim 9 wherein said disorder is a motor disorder, anxiety disorder or cognitive disorder.

11. The method according to claim 9 wherein said disorder is schizophrenia or depression.

12. The method according to claim 10 wherein said cognitive disorder is a neurodegenerative disorder.

13. The method according to claim 12 wherein said neurodegenerative disorder is Alzheimer's disease or Parkinson's disease

5 14. A pharmaceutical composition which comprises a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and an effective amount of a compound of formula I.



(I)

10 wherein

A is C, CR₁₀ or N;

X is CR₁₁ or N;

Y is CR₇ or N with the proviso that when X is N, then Y must be CR₇;

15 R₁ is H, C₁-C₆alkylcarbonyl, C₁-C₆alkylcarbonyloxy or an C₁-C₆alkyl, C₁-C₆alkenyl, C₁-C₆alkynyl or cycloheteroalkyl group each optionally substituted;

20 R₂, R₃, R₄, R₅ and R₆ are each independently H, halogen, OH or an optionally substituted C₁-C₆alkyl group;

R₇ and R₁₁ are each independently H, halogen or an C₁-C₆alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl or C₁-C₆alkoxy group each optionally substituted;

25 R₈ is an C₁-C₆alkyl, aryl or heteroaryl group each optionally substituted;

R_9 is H, halogen or an C_1 - C_6 alkyl, C_1 - C_6 alkoxy, C_1 - C_6 alkenyl, aryl or heteroaryl group each optionally substituted;

R_{10} is H, OH or an optionally substituted C_1 - C_6 alkoxy group;

m is an integer of 1, 2 or 3;

n is 0 or an integer of 1, 2 or 3; and

--- represents a single bond or a double bond; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

15. The composition according to claim 14 wherein A is N and m is 2.

16. The composition according to claim 14 wherein R_8 is an optionally substituted phenyl group.

17. The composition according to claim 14 wherein X is CR_{11} and Y is N.

18. The composition according to claim 14 wherein X is CR_{11} and Y is CR_7 .

19. The composition according to claim 14 having a compound of formula I selected from the group consisting of:

1-(phenylsulfonyl)-4-piperazin-1-yl-1H-indole;

1-[(2-bromophenyl)sulfonyl]-4-piperazin-1-yl-1H-indole;

1-[(6-chloroimidazo[2,1-b][1,3]thiazol-5-yl)sulfonyl]-4-piperazin-1-yl-1H-indole;

1-[(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)sulfonyl]-4-piperazin-1-yl-1H-indole;

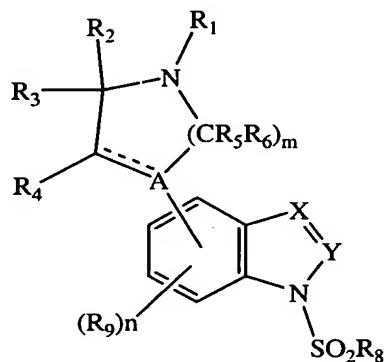
1-[(5-chloro-3-methyl-1-benzothien-2-yl)sulfonyl]-4-piperazin-1-yl-1H-indole;

1-[(4-bromophenyl)sulfonyl]-4-piperazin-1-yl-1H-indole;

1-[(5-bromothien-2-yl)sulfonyl]-4-piperazin-1-yl-1H-indole;
 1-[(4,5-dichlorothien-2-yl)sulfonyl]-4-piperazin-1-yl-1H-indole;
 5 methyl 4-[(4-piperazin-1-yl-1H-indol-1-yl)sulfonyl]phenyl ether;
 4-piperazin-1-yl-1-{[4-(trifluoromethoxy)phenyl]sulfonyl}-1H-indole;
 4-(4-benzylpiperazin-1-yl)-1-(phenylsulfonyl)-1H-indole;
 10 4-(4-benzylpiperazin-1-yl)-1-[(2-bromophenyl)sulfonyl]-1H-indole;
 4-(4-benzylpiperazin-1-yl)-1-[(6-chloroimidazo[2,1-b][1,3]thiazol-5-yl)sulfonyl]-1H-indole;
 4-(4-benzylpiperazin-1-yl)-1-[(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)sulfonyl]-1H-indole;
 15 4-[4-(3-methoxybenzyl)piperazin-1-yl]-1-(phenylsulfonyl)-1H-indole;
 1-(phenylsulfonyl)-4-[4-(pyridin-4-ylmethyl)piperazin-1-yl]-1H-indole;
 20 1-(phenylsulfonyl)-4-[4-(pyridin-3-ylmethyl)piperazin-1-yl]-1H-indole;
 1-[(2-bromophenyl)sulfonyl]-4-[4-(3-methoxybenzyl)piperazin-1-yl]-1H-indole;
 1-[(2-bromophenyl)sulfonyl]-4-[4-(pyridin-4-ylmethyl)piperazin-1-yl]-1H-indole;
 25 1-[(2-bromophenyl)sulfonyl]-4-[4-(pyridin-3-ylmethyl)piperazin-1-yl]-1H-indole;
 1-(phenylsulfonyl)-5-piperazin-1-yl-1H-indazole;
 1-(phenylsulfonyl)-6-piperazin-1-yl-1H-indazole;
 30 1-[(2-bromophenyl)sulfonyl]-6-piperazin-1-yl-1H-indazole;
 1-[(4-bromophenyl)sulfonyl]-5-piperazin-1-yl-1H-indazole;
 1-[(4-bromophenyl)sulfonyl]-6-piperazin-1-yl-1H-indazole;
 1-[(5-bromothien-2-yl)sulfonyl]-5-piperazin-1-yl-1H-indazole;

- 1-[(5-bromothien-2-yl)sulfonyl]-6-piperazin-1-yl-1H-indazole;
 1-[(4-fluorophenyl)sulfonyl]-5-piperazin-1-yl-1H-indazole;
 5 1-[(4-fluorophenyl)sulfonyl]-6-piperazin-1-yl-1H-indazole;
 methyl 4-[(5-piperazin-1-yl-1H-indazol-1-yl)sulfonyl]phenyl ether;
 1-phenylsulfonyl-4-(4-propylpiperazin-1-yl)-1H-indazole;
 10 1-phenylsulfonyl-4-piperazin-1-yl-1H-indazole;
 1-phenylsulfonyl-4-(4-phenethylpiperazin-1-yl)-1H-indazole;
 1-phenylsulfonyl-4-[4-(3-phenylpropyl)-piperazin-1-yl]-1H-indazole; and
 15 the pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

20. A method for the preparation of a compound of formula I.



(I)

wherein

A is C , CR_{10} or N ;

X is CR_{11} or N ;

Y is CR_7 or N with the proviso that when X is N , then
 25 Y must be CR_7 ;

R_1 is C_1 - C_6 alkylcarbonyl, C_1 - C_6 alkylcarbonyloxy or an
 C_1 - C_6 alkyl, C_1 - C_6 alkenyl, C_1 - C_6 alkynyl or

cycloheteroalkyl group each optionally substituted;

R_2 , R_3 , R_4 , R_5 and R_6 are each independently H, halogen, OH or an optionally substituted C_1 - C_6 alkyl group;

R_7 and R_{11} are each independently H, halogen or an C_1 - C_6 alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl or alkoxy group each optionally substituted;

R_8 is an C_1 - C_6 alkyl, aryl or heteroaryl group each optionally substituted;

R_9 is H, halogen or an C_1 - C_6 alkyl, C_1 - C_6 alkoxy, C_1 - C_6 alkenyl, aryl or heteroaryl group each optionally substituted;

R_{10} is H, OH or an optionally substituted C_1 - C_6 alkoxy group;

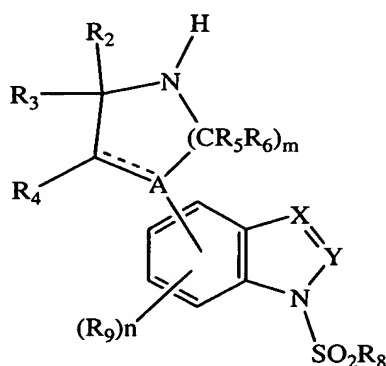
m is an integer of 1, 2 or 3;

n is 0 or an integer of 1, 2 or 3; and

---- represents a single bond or a double bond

said method which comprises reacting a compound of

formula Ia



(Ia)

wherein A, X, R_2 , R_3 , R_4 , R_5 , R_6 , R_7 , R_8 , R_9 , m and n are as defined hereinabove for formula I with a compound R_1 -Hal wherein R_1 is as defined hereinabove for formula I and Hal is Cl, Br or I.